



Southwick Urban District Council

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR
1962

ROSETTA C. BARKER, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

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HOUSING AND PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

(as at May 1962)

Chairman

Councillor A. Slater

Vice-Chairman

Councillor D. Delaney

Members

Councillor Mrs. J.M.A. Dean

Councillor J.W. Hobbs

Councillor T.H. Porter

Councillor Mrs. I.J. Sweet

Ex Officio. Councillor J.H. Munn
(Chairman of Council)

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STAFF OF PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health

Rosetta C. Barker M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector

T.A. Eardley

Clerical Staff

Miss M.L. Fry
Mrs. J.L. Bancroft

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Telephone:
Shoreham-by-Sea 4242

Public Health Department,
St. Wilfrid's,
Ham Road,
SHOREHAM-BY-SEA,
Sussex.

October, 1963.

To The Chairman and Members
of the Urban District Council
of Southwick.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the
year 1962.

Vital Statistics. The mid-year population as estimated by the
Registrar General was 11,870 persons, this being exactly the same
number as in 1961.

Births. The total number of live births was 152 and the
corrected live birth rate was 13.6 as compared with a rate
for England and Wales of 18.0 and a rate of 14.8 for
the urban districts of West Sussex.

Deaths. There were 73 male deaths and 101 female deaths
making a total of 174 from all causes. The corrected
death rate of 13.0 compares with a rate of 11.9 for
England and Wales and a rate of 14.9 for the urban
districts of West Sussex.

The number of deaths of infants under one year was
three, giving an Infant Mortality rate per thousand live
births of 19.73.

There was one death of a mother from causes associated
with childbirth and one death from respiratory tuberculosis
of a male aged 67 years. There were two suicides.

Infection of Milk with the Brucella organism

It will be seen on page 14 of my report that from 4
samples of milk submitted for examination, the Brucella organism
was isolated and I thought this a suitable opportunity to point
out the risk associated with drinking "raw" milk i.e. milk that has
not been heat treated.

This organism is the cause of undulant fever in man. Undulant fever is a disease of man and may manifest itself in a variety of symptoms so making the diagnosis very difficult. It is, however, a serious disease and may cause chronic ill health. The disease is almost always contracted by man from animals and in the majority of cases. This risk is always present if milk is drunk that is not heat treated. It seems to be considered by some people that Tuberculin tested milk is safe milk and this is a fallacy. Though Tuberculin tested milk can generally be regarded as safe from the risk of causing tuberculosis it cannot be regarded as safe from the risk of causing other diseases. Tuberculin tested herds are frequently infected with Brucella abortus and so the milk from such herds may be infected with the organism. It could also be infected with typhoid, food poisoning or other germs, and the only sure way of making the milk safe is by a heat treatment process such as pasteurisation. There are legal powers to deal with milk infected with the Brucella organism but the operation of those powers is practically an impossibility. Until therefore, brucellosis infection of cattle has been eradicated, the answer to the problem must be in the hands of the public and the answer is to drink only heat treated milk.

I wish to express my thanks to the members of the Public Health Committee for their support, to the officers of the other Departments and to the staff of my Department.

I am , Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ROSETTA BARKER

Medical Officer of Health.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND STATISTICS

Southwick is a small urban district on the south coast, situated about five miles west of Brighton and about six miles east of Worthing.

The chief industries in the town are electricity production, dyeing, sheet metal work and lingerie manufacturing. The industrial undertakings number twenty-two and represent 7.9% of the total rateable value.

In the year 1958, 2 of the older residential areas were defined as areas of Comprehensive Development under the West Sussex Development Plan, the Fishersgate area of just over 12 acres and the Central Area of just under 26 acres. A large part of the redevelopment of the Fishersgate Area in respect of the residential development has been carried out, and it is hoped that the industrial development will be carried out within the next few years.

As regards the Central Area, the redevelopment here has included a new Shopping Centre. Part of the development in this area has already been carried out including flats and the new Shopping Centre. The new Shopping Centre was officially opened in July, 1962.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area in acres	1,127
Registrar General's estimate of resident population (mid-year 1962)	11,870
Density of population: persons per acre	10.53
Rateable Value as at 31st December, 1961	£332,725
Rateable Value as at 31st December, 1962	£339,947
Sum represented by a penny rate	£1,387
No. of inhabited houses at the end of 1962 according to Rate Book	4,041

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VITAL STATISTICS

Mothers and Infants

These statistics are calculated on estimated mid-year 1962 Home Population of 11,870.

Live Births

						<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	..	77	66	143
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	..	5	4	9
						<u>82</u>	<u>70</u>	<u>152</u>
i) Live Birth Rate per 1000 population	.....					..	..	12.8
ii) " " " after applying Area								
+ Comparability factor	....					..	..	13.69

Illegitimate Live Births (per cent of total live births) 5.9

Stillbirths

						<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	3
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
						<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>

Stillbirth Rate per 1000 total live and stillbirths .. 19.3

Total Live and Stillbirths.

						<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	..	79	67	146
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	..	5	4	9
						<u>84</u>	<u>71</u>	<u>155</u>

+ The Area Comparability Factor takes account of the age and sex distribution of the population and its use enables comparisons to be made with the crude rate for England and Wales or with the corresponding adjusted rate for any other district.

The adjusted live birth rate for Southwick and the crude live birth rate for England and Wales for 1962 were as follows:

Southwick	..	..	..	..	13.69
England and Wales	..	..	..	..	18.00

Infant Deaths (deaths under one year)

				<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	...	...	...	1	2	3
Illegitimate	...	...	...	-	-	-
				<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>

Infant Mortality Rates (Cp. England and Wales 21.4)

Total infant deaths per 1000 total live births	...	19.73
Legitimate infant deaths per 1000 legitimate live births	...	20.9
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1000 illegitimate live births	...	0.0

Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1000 total live births) ... 6.5

Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under one week per 1000 total live births) 0.0

Perinatal Mortality Rate (stillbirths and deaths under one week combined per 1000 total live and stillbirths 19.3

Maternal Mortality (including abortion)

Number of deaths	...	...	...	...	1
Rate per 1000 total live and stillbirths	...	...	...	...	6.45

Infant Mortality

There were three deaths of infants under one year, particulars of which follow:

No.	CAUSE	Age	Sex
1.	Bronchopneumonia. Gastro-enteritis. Bilateral otitis media.	8 mths.	Female
2.	Anoxia due to acute cardiac failure. Congenital defect of heart. Hypoplasia of suprarenals.	1 mth.	Male
3.	Congenital heart disease.	2 wks.	Female

CAUSES OF DEATH IN 1962

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	-	1
2. Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-
3. Syphilitic disease	-	-	-
4. Diphtheria	-	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections	-	-	-
7. Acute poliomyelitis	-	-	-
8. Measles	-	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-	-
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1	1	2
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	9	1	10
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	2	2
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	1	1
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	5	10	15
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-	-
16. Diabetes	-	2	2
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	10	12	22
18. Coronary disease, angina	16	16	32
19. Hypertension with heart disease	-	3	3
20. Other heart disease	5	22	27
21. Other circulatory disease	4	7	11
22. Influenza	1	2	3
23. Pneumonia	4	-	4
24. Bronchitis	7	6	13
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	0	1	1
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	1	3
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	1	1
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	-	-	-
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	-	-	-
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	1	1
31. Congenital malformations	1	2	3
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	6	4	10
33. Motor vehicle accidents	-	3	3
34. All other accidents	-	2	2
35. Suicide	1	1	2
36. Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-
	<u>73</u>	<u>101</u>	<u>174</u>

With the Death Rate as with the Live Birth Rate, an "Age and Sex Comparability" factor is provided which takes account of the age and sex distribution of the population, thus enabling comparisons to be made with England and Wales and other districts. The relevant rates for 1962 are:-

Crude Death Rate	14.65
Corrected Death Rate	13.0
Death Rate - England & Wales.	11.9

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS
DISEASES

The following diseases are notifiable to the
Medical Officer of Health.

Anthrax	Paratyphoid Fever
Cholera	Plague
Diphtheria	Pneumonia (acute)
Dysentery	Poliomyelitis
Encephalitis (infective)	Puerperal Pyrexia
Encephalitis (post infectious)	Relapsing Fever
Erysipelas	Smallpox
Food Poisoning (or suspected Food Poisoning)	Scarlet Fever
Malaria	Typhoid Fever
Measles	Typhus
Meningococcal Infection	Tuberculosis
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Whooping Cough

Below is a list of the diseases notified during
the year and the number of notifications of each received.

Measles	..	..	4
Pneumonia (acute)	..	..	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	..	..	1
Scarlet Fever	..	..	3
Tuberculosis - Respiratory	..	..	1
Whooping Cough	..	..	12

Tuberculosis

There was one primary notification of Tuberculosis.
The patient was a man aged 34 years.

One death occurred during the year from Respiratory
Tuberculosis, that of a man aged 67 years.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER SUPPLY

The Brighton Corporation supplies all the houses in the District of Southwick.

I am indebted to Mr. Needham Green, B.Sc., M.I.C.E., Brighton Corporation Waterworks Engineer for the following information about the Brighton Waterworks Undertaking for the year 1962.

1. The water supply has been satisfactory in quantity and quality.
2. Bacteriological examinations of both raw and treated waters were made at weekly intervals except in certain instances where bacterial pollution was present in the raw waters, when samples of both raw and chloraminated waters were examined daily. The total number of raw and treated water samples examined from the Pumping stations, together with a summary of the bacteriological results obtained is given below:

Number of Samples Examined	No. showing presence of Coliform organisms in 100 ml. or less	No. showing presence of Faecal Coli. in 100 ml. or less	No. showing Coliform organ absent from 100 ml.
1,363	184	118	1,179

Colony counts at 22°C after 3 days and 37°C after one day's incubation were generally low in number.

Abbreviated chemical analyses were carried out at weekly intervals throughout the year on all raw waters and a general chemical and mineral examination was made each month.

In addition to the foregoing, 2,031 daily samples from taps at fixed points have been examined bacteriologically, the results of which have shown the chloraminated waters going to supply to be of the highest standard of purity.

Bacteriological and abbreviated chemical examinations have also been carried out on 864 samples of water from service reservoirs. A total number of 5,232 samples was examined in the Department's laboratory during the year.

Since all the water is obtained from the chalk, there is little likelihood of any plumbo-solvent action, and no evidence of such is apparent.

4. Chlorination, with post-ammoniation of all raw waters is practised continuously and surveys of the catchment area are regularly carried out. In the event of a raw water showing evidence of bacterial pollution, such surveys are intensified and appropriate adjustments of chlorine and ammonia dosage are made. In addition, bacteriological examination of the raw and chlorinated water is carried out at daily intervals.

The supply from the public water mains is direct to the houses.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

HOUSE REFUSE COLLECTION

The work in connection with these services is the responsibility of the Council's Engineer and Surveyor to whom I am indebted for the information which follows:

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

The whole of the district is served by a system of foul sewers discharging into the Portslade and Southwick Outfall Board's intercepting and tank sewers and from these by a controlled discharge well out at sea.

As part of the Board's scheme to provide a new underground high level system storage tank which will serve the northern parts of Southwick and Portslade, the construction of the northern intercepting sewer and the new high level storage tank was carried out in 1961 and are now in use.

The Board have no outfalls or overflows into rivers or streams.

Regular inspections of the foreshore are maintained and there is no evidence that the controlled discharge of sewerage is not working effectively as designed to disperse the sewage well out at sea.

There are no cesspools in the district.

Rainfall statistics for the year are as follows:

The total rainfall up to 31st December, 1962	...	...	...	...	24.45
Rainfall being recorded on	...	...	...	...	136 days.
The Wettest month was November, rainfall	...	...	...	...	3.81
The Driest month was June, rainfall	...	...	...	...	0.25

Refuse Collection

Refuse is collected by covered refuse collecting vehicles from every house and shop in the district each week. Disposal is a refuse salvage and separation plant at Halewick Lane, Sompting which is used jointly by the Southwick Urban District Council, Shoreham-by-Sea Urban District Council and Worthing Rural District Council.

Dustbins. - These are provided and maintained by the householders.

Provision of Public Conveniences

The Council provides and maintains public conveniences. Those are situated at The Green and at Southwick Square (opened 1962) for men and women, and at the rear of the Town Hall for women. In addition, by agreement with the proprietors, toilets situated at The Schooner, Shipwright and Cricketers Inn are available for public use, their cleansing being carried out twice weekly by the Council who also pay for the water used in these toilets.

Provision of Swimming Baths

There are no swimming baths in the district.

Mortuaries

There is no public mortuary in the district. By arrangement between Southwick Council and Shoreham-by-Sea Council, bodies from Southwick are received into the public mortuary at Shoreham-by-Sea. During 1962, 20 bodies were received from Southwick into the mortuary at Shoreham-by-Sea.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF
FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

This Act makes provision in connection with the following:

Composition and labelling of food and drugs.
Food unfit for human consumption.
Hygiene in connection with sale, etc. of food to the public.
Registration of premises and licensing of vehicles, etc. in connection with the sale of food.
Special provisions as to sale, etc. of particular food.
Milk and Dairies.
Provision and Regulation of Markets.
Slaughterhouses and Knackers Yards, Cold Air Stores.

Examination of Milk

In accordance with Regulations, milk sold to the public has to comply with certain prescribed tests.

"Pasteurised" Milk is required to comply with the Phosphatase Test for adequate heat treatment, and with the Methylene Blue Test for bacterial cleanliness.

"Sterilised" Milk is required to comply with the prescribed Turbidity Test.

"Raw" Milk (i.e. milk which has not been subjected to heat treatment) is required to comply with the Methylene Blue Test for bacterial cleanliness.

During the year samples of milk were sent to the Public Health Laboratory for examination for detection of presence of the Brucella organism and the tubercle bacilli, the former organism being the cause of undulant fever.

Overleaf is a table giving the results of the examination.

Examination for the presence of Brucella and Tubercle

Brucella				Tubercle Bacilli	
Ring Test		Organism Present		Absent	Present
Positive	Negative	Absent	Present		
4	56	56	4	60	-

It will be seen from the above table that the Brucella organism was found in 4 samples of milk. Reference is made to this in my letter on page 3.

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HOUSING

In relation to housing, local authorities have duties under the Public Health Acts and under the Housing Acts.

Under the Public Health Act, 1936 the main action taken as regards houses is in respect of Nuisances, that is the discovery and abatement of Nuisances. The Public Health Act, 1961 includes provisions relating to food storage accommodation, bathrooms, and sanitary conveniences.

Other aspects of housing are dealt with under the Housing Acts.

Housing Act, 1957

The Housing Act, 1957 has provisions for securing the repair, maintenance, and sanitary condition of houses. Other of its provisions relate to Clearance Areas, abatement of overcrowding, and the provision of housing accommodation.

Southwick (Central Area No. 3) Compulsory Purchase Order 1961

The Council made a Declaration of Unfitness Order declaring Nos. 110, Albion Street, 1a and 2, The Grange, Grange Road, and Nos. 1 and 11, Grange Road to be unfit for human habitation and not capable at reasonable cost of being rendered so fit.

Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958

Under this Act, grants can be paid at the discretion of the local authority for improvements, subject to a maximum grant of £400.0s.0d. These grants are available also for conversion of houses into flats.

One application for these discretionary improvement grants were approved by the Council during 1962.

House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959

This Act which came into operation in June, 1959, introduced a new system of grants known as Standard Grants which are available towards the cost of providing all or any of the following amenities which it lacks:

- a) a fixed bath or shower in a bathroom,
- b) a wash-hand basin,
- c) a hot water supply,
- d) a water closet in or contiguous to the dwelling,
- e) satisfactory facilities for storing food.

These grants can be claimed as a right, subject to certain conditions. The amount of grant payable is half the cost up to a maximum of £155.0s.0d.

During 1962 the Council approved 7 Standard Grant applications were approved.

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FACTORIES

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

District Councils have certain responsibilities in connection with general health and welfare provisions in factories. These differ according to whether the factory is a power factory or a non-power factory, i.e. whether mechanical power is or is not used.

In the case of non-power factories, the duties are concerned with the provisions relating to cleanliness, overcrowding, temperature, ventilation, drainage of floors and sanitary conveniences.

In power factories the only duty of the District Council relates to sanitary conveniences, the other health provisions being the responsibility of H.M. Inspector of Factories, who is also responsible in both types of factories for the requirements relating to provision and maintenance of suitable and sufficient lighting.

District Councils are also responsible for enforcing the provisions of the Act relating to Outwork.

Outwork. The law in relation to outworkers is in Sections 133 and 134 (Part VIII) of the Factories Act.

The classes of outwork to which the provisions of the sections apply are specified by Regulations made by the Minister of Labour.

Section 133 of the Factories Act requires the occupier of every factory and every contractor employed by any such occupier in the business of the factory, to keep in prescribed form and manner lists showing the names and addresses of all persons employed by them as outworkers.

A copy of the list is required to be sent to the Council of the District in which the factory is situated and if the place of employment of the outworker is outside the district in which the factory is situated the Council of that District is required to forward the name and address of any outworker to the appropriate District Council.

Section 134 of the Act applies to the employment of persons in unwholesome premises.

FACTORIES

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1961

PART 1 OF THE ACT

1. Inspections of purpose of provisions as to health
(including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises	No, on Register	Number of		
		Inspec- tions	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	23	48	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	31	51	-	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (Excluding out- worker's premises)	2	2	-	-
Total	56	101		

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Reme- died	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspec- tor.	By H.M. Inspec- tor.	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	2	2	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient.....	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	-	1	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
Total	3	3	-	1	-

Statement of the Public Health Inspector of the work carried out by him during 1962.

Number of Informal Notices served during the year	20
Number of Statutory Notices served during the year	2

Verminous premises

No. found to be infested	4
No. disinfested	4

Housing

Number of Inspections made under the Public Health and Housing Acts	170
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<u>Infectious Diseases:</u> No. of inspections carried out	5
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<u>Shops Act 1950</u>	No. of shops in the District	120	
	No. of inspections made		215
	No. of defects found		2
	No. of defects remedied		2

Unsound Food: food voluntarily surrendered during the year-

2 tins apricots
8 stone of huss
1 stone of plaice
2 boxes of haddock

<u>Milk samples</u>	No. of milk samples taken during the year for biological testing.	60
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Clean Air Act, 1956

No. of observations made in respect of smoke emissions	29
No. of notices served	0

Food Shops

Butchers	8	Licensed premise	16
Confectionery	3	Milk distributors	
Fish shops	6	Preparation or	
Greengrocery	9	manufacture of	
Grocery	30	sausages etc.	8
Ice Cream retail sales	25		
Street vendors	2		

APPENDIX

SERVICES PROVIDED BY OTHER AUTHORITIES

Below is a summary of Services provided by other authorities under the Acts mentioned.

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT 1946

The National Health Service Act, 1946 makes provision for the following Services

1. Hospital and Specialist Services (Part II of the Act)

The South West Metropolitan Hospital Board is the authority responsible for the provision of hospital and specialist services in the District of Southwick, and the Worthing Group Hospital Management Committee set up under this Board carries out the day to day administration of the hospitals which serve Southwick and the names of which are listed below.

Southlands Hospital	..	General Hospital
Worthing Hospital	..	" "
Littlehampton Hospital	..	" "
Swandean Hospital	..	Infectious Diseases Long stay cases
Zachary Merton Hospital	..	Maternity Hospital

2. Personal Health Services (Part III of the Act)

These are provided by the West Sussex County Council.

1. The Care of Mothers and young children
2. Domiciliary Midwifery
3. Home Nursing
4. Health Visiting
5. Vaccination and Immunisation
6. Ambulance Service
7. Prevention of illness, care and after-care of persons suffering from illness
8. Home Help

